

Changes to entry and visiting restrictions: Tenterfield Hospital

Tenterfield Hospital is changing entry points and implementing screening criteria for all visitors and patients.

To better protect its patients, visitors and staff, Tenterfield Hospital will be restricting access into the hospital for anyone visiting the site.

These changes will also affect the number of visitors allowed to any one patient.

From Wednesday 15th April 2020 there will be only two points of entry to the facility, via:

- Emergency department
- Medical Imaging / X-Ray

Emergency Department entry

The point of entry for all emergency presentations and visitors is from Pelham Street, via the intercom-controlled door to the Emergency Department.

Members of the public will need to activate the intercom to speak with a staff member, who will ask a series of screening questions.

Screening is necessary for both ED presentations and people wanting to enter the hospital to visit inpatients.

If the nursing staff determine a person has respiratory symptoms they will be asked to present to the ED screening station on the opposite side of ED, where they will be given a mask and brought into a separate area of the building.

Medical imaging entry and appointments

Entry to the medical imaging department will be via the main hospital doors (off Naas Street) into the medical imaging waiting area. The public will not be able to access the main hospital ward area.

All medical imaging patients are now required to have a pre-booked appointment before visiting the hospital. Medical imaging can be contacted on (02) 6739 5223.

Visiting restrictions

For the safety of our patients, staff and the general community, HNE Health has taken steps to reduce the risk of COVID-19 spreading by changing our guidelines on visits to hospitals and inpatient facilities across the District. Each inpatient will only be allowed one visitor (partner/ family member / guardian) and only after they have been screened and cleared.

The same rules will apply with Emergency Department presentations – only one support person per patient.

The District acknowledges there may be a need for exceptions under compassionate grounds, for example, those who are elderly and frail, have a disability, or are receiving end of life care. These decisions will be managed on a case-by-case basis by the treating team.

For the latest on visiting restrictions, visit: <http://www.hnehealth.nsw.gov.au/Pages/HNE-Health-visitor-information.aspx>

Ambulance presentations will not be affected by these changes.

Thank you for your understanding and helping to keep our staff, patients and community safe during this difficult time.

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